

June 15, 2011

Delta Stewardship Council 980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500 Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Request to Include Alternate Delta Plan as a Project Alternative in the EIR

Dear Chairman Isenberg and Members of the Council:

The Coalition for a Sustainable Delta (Coalition) is writing to request that the Delta Stewardship Council (Council) give serious consideration to the Alternate Delta Plan recently submitted to the Council. The Coalition consists of persons and entities that are engaged or interested in agricultural activities in the Central Valley, and its members depend on the Sacramento and San Joaquin river systems for substantial portions of their water supply. The Coalition is engaged in a wide array of activities to protect the Delta and its native species, and is committed to promoting strategies to ensure the sustainability of the Delta's ecosystems.

A coalition of agencies and organizations representing the interests of water agencies, businesses, urban areas, and agriculture from throughout the state submitted an Alternate Delta Plan to the Council on June 10, 2011, and requested that the Council include the Alternate Delta Plan as a project alternative in the draft environmental impact report for the Delta Plan.

The Coalition supports the inclusion of the Alternate Delta Plan as a project alternative in the draft EIR prepared for the Delta Plan. The Alternate Delta Plan lays out a comprehensive approach to achieving the co-equal goals that we believe warrants full discussion by the Council. We believe including the Alternate Delta Plan as a project alternative in the draft EIR will ensure the Council has a complete range of options to consider as it formulates the final Delta Plan.

The Coalition is committed to working with the Council as a partner in developing a plan that can further the achievement of the co-equal goals of ecosystem restoration and water supply reliability.

Sincerely,

William D. Phillimore

President